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WIRE SVC= **UNASSIGNED**

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PHILIPPINES

RATUZYUW RUTLAAA1013 2191530-UUUU--RUMJHK.

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REF HK903 ON VERITAS SOURCELINE:

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SAH 06/1530Z AUG

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DAN: 155-075573

INPUT CDSN: DK1091

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REF HK060807 MANILA VERITAS ENGLISH 29 JUL ((TENTATIVE))

-- PHILIPPINES: VERITAS URGES MARCOS TO REGAIN CREDIBILITY

REF HK060809 AND ADD MANILA VERITAS ENGLISH 29 JUL ((TENTATIVE))

-- PHILIPPINES: GALMAN LAWYER'S VIEWS ON AGUINO KILLING

**REQUEST SOURCELINE APPROVAL FOR THE ENGLISH-LANGUAGE
WEEKLY "VERITAS" AS RENDERED IN THE ABOVE ITEMS.**

**THE MASTHEAD AT THE TOP OF THE FIRST PAGE IS WHITE WITH
BLUE LETTERING READING "VERITAS" TO THE LEFT, BELOW THIS
WORD, ARE PRINTED IN SMALL BLACK LETTERS "THE TRUTH SHALL
SET YOU FREE (JOHN 8:32)." TO THE RIGHT ARE THE WORDS "VOL 1
NO. 37 JULY 29-AUG. 4, 1984 24 PAGES P2. 50."**

**ON THE RIGHT SIDE OF PAGE 2 THERE IS A BOX WHICH REPEATS THE
NAME OF THE PAPER "VERITAS" IN BLACK ON WHITE BACKGROUND, BELOW
WHICH ARE THE WORDS "THE TRUTH SHALL SET YOU FREE (JOHN 8:32)."
BELOW THIS IS A LIST OF EDITORIAL, MANAGEMENT, AND BUSINESS
STAFF. FELIX B. BAUTISTA IS LISTED AS EDITOR, VICENTE R. JAYME
AS CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT, AND FRANCISCO R. CLAUDIO
JR AS BUSINESS MANAGER.**

**THE ADDRESS OF THE EDITORIAL OFFICES ARE GIVEN AS 155 PANAY
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TOR: 061117Z AUG 84

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Philippines: VERITAS Urges Marcos to Regain Credibility

HK060807

Manila VERITAS in English No. 37, 29 Jul 84 p 10 ((tentative))

((Editorial: "Please, Mr President, Can We Believe ~~the~~ Now?"))

((Text)) In his state-of-the-Nation address at the opening of the Batasan Pambansa last Monday, President Marcos had some good news to offer: he would not re-impose martial law, and he would not make use of his awesome powers under Amendment 6 if the Batasan was in session. In any case, he would not exercise these powers without first consulting the KBL ((Kilusang Bagong Lipunan)) meeting in caucus.

But such was the measure of his credibility -- or lack of it -- that an oppositionist MP told VERITAS right after the speech that he expected the President to do exactly the opposite. "I remember how, three days before he devalued the peso, he announced to the nation there would be no devaluation," this MP, said by way of explanation.

We are very much afraid that this skepticism is shared by a large segment of the population. In the eyes of many people, the credibility of the President cannot go any lower. Put in the most inelegant of terms, they simply do not believe anything he says anymore.

In those few words is encapsulated our tragedy as a nation.

Until the President regains his credibility, no program of recovery he will initiate, no matter how sound it may be, can prosper. For, over the long haul, it is the cooperation of the people that will insure the program's success. But that cooperation will be withheld if the people have no confidence in the leadership, if they do not trust Mr Marcos.

There is no point here in explaining why and how Mr Marcos lost his credibility. Suffice it to say that it all began in 1965 when, as a candidate for President, he promised the people that, if elected, he would stop the spiralling of prices, bring down the crime rate and put an end to graft and corruption in government.

More to the point is how Mr Marcos can make the people believe in him again. Obviously, nothing and nobody -- not Amendment 6 and not his technocrats -- can do the job for him. Obviously also, since he will not resign and the people, who are committed to peaceful change, are willing to wait for the 1987 presidential election, he must try to regain his credibility if he is to get his act together and turn the economy around.

Precisely because the people have nobody else -- we are reminded now of the anguished cry of the apostles, "Lord, to whom shall we go?" -- they must look to him to get them out of the economic bind they find themselves in. But he cannot do it. For, first, he must win back their trust and confidence.

Mr Marcos must prove to them that he is sincere when he says he will not declare martial law again and that he will not abuse his emergency powers. And there is only one way of proving this: by immediately setting the machinery going so that the highly

obnoxious Amendment 6 can be expunged from the 1973 Constitution. He can do it -- if he wants to. One word to the KBL members of the Batasan will do it. The opposition, we have no doubt, will be all for it.

But the question remains: will he want to do it?

If he wants to regain his credibility so that he can start the recovery process, he must do it. Surely, he does not want to do down in history as the man who promised his people that the nation would be great again -- only to lead that nation to penury, perdition and ruin.

(ENDALL) 29 JUL 06/0842Z AUG

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Take 1 of 2 -- Philippines: Galman Lawyer's Views on Aquino Killing

HK060809

Manila Veritas in English no. 37, 29 Jul 84 p 9 ((tentative))

((("Current Affairs" Column by Correspondent Barbara Mae Dacanay:
"Despite Two Libel WUIITS, Lazaro Speaks Out"))

((Text)) Attorney Lupino Lazaro, outspoken lawyer of the family of Rolando Galman, has 220 million good reasons for keeping his mouth shut about who really killed Ninoy Aquino. But even two libel suits seeking damages totalling P ((Pesos)) 220 million did not stop him from talking freely to Veritas.

Like Dr. Enrique P. Syquia, the president of two lawyers groups, he was invited by the Agrava fact-finding board to submit a memorandum on the case. Also like Syquia, he is convinced that Galman, the man pinpointed by the military as the hit man commissioned by the communists to do the job, could not have shot AQUINO. But, unlike Syquia, he did not realize the text of his memorandum to the press.

Lazaro, however, did speak freely about it to this writer.

Aquino, in his considered opinion, was shot, not on the tarmac as the military witnesses contended, but between the fourth and the seventh rungs of the stairs down which he was led by his military escorts. This is borne out by physical evidence implicit in the

tapes of Sandra Burton, the TIME correspondent with Aquino, and those of the Tokyo Broadcasting System and the American Broadcasting Corporation.

These tapes, he said, recorded an average of 9.2 to 10 seconds from the time Aquino exited out of the door to the time the first shot was heard.

"Actual tests by the board showed that even at a moderately fast pace, the 17-step stairs could not be negotiated in less than 10 seconds," LAZARO told VERITAS. But, considering that the stairs were narrow and that Aquino was held by both his arms on two sides, the descent could not be moderately fast.

"Aquino could not have been killed on the tarmac because the trajectory of the bullet was downward," Lazaro pointed out. "If Galman had show him, he would have held the gun above his head and fired it from that position. Nobody, certainly not a professional gunman as the military claim Galman was, would have fired a gun that way."

It is more logical to assume, he went on, that Ninoy was shot at the back of his head by a gunman who was above and behind him on the stairs during the descent from the plane. Thus, one of the escorts must have done it.

Lazaro said this conclusion is supported by the testimony of another PAL ((Philippine Zairlines)) employee, Ramon Balang, who claimed he saw Galman at the rear of the SWAT Van surrounded by soldiers and held by the wrists before he was shot by the same soldiers.

There is a strong possibility, Lazaro told VERITAS, that Galman was dead even before Aquino was shot and that he was already dead by the time he hit the tarmac. He said there is a picture which shows Galman stretched out on the tarmac, but the blo that he died

on his face seemed to have flowed upward in defiance of all the laws of gravity.

Was there an explanation for this phenomenon? Lazaro offered one. "Like Aquino, he was shot at the back of the head, perhaps inside the SWAT van. He fell on his face and the blood flowed downward until it dried. At a given signal, or when Aquino was seen descending the stairs with his escorts, the dead Galman was pulled out of the van, held upright by four soldiers and then thrown on his back on that tarmac."

Lazaro said that, according to the tapes, a period of 3.57 seconds passed between the first shot and the fusillade of four shots. During that interval, he said, "the escorts could have flung Aquino in front of the soldiers holding the dead Galman. And then the show began."

But Lazaro was not content to bolster his theory with just the testimony of witnesses or the evidence deduced from the tapes and pictures. He also produced the autopsy results on Galman.

The autopsy, he said, showed that Galman's stomach contained a lot of undigested food. It can be presumed, therefore, that he had been shot after taking a heavy meal since, obviously, the digestive process stops at death.

If, as claimed by the military, Galman had slipped through the security cordon to be near the plane, and since the plane arrived at one o'clock, this meant that Galman must have slipped out at noon to take a full meal, and then sneaked back in again to await Aquino. This, Lazaro said, is straining the bounds of credibility since, by that time, the place was crawling with security people.

A much more plausible theory, he stated, was that Galman boarded the van after a full meal and then he was shot in the van.

Did he believe, as did Syquia, that there was a military

conspiracy?

(MORE) 29 JUL 06/0927Z AUG

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REF HK060B09 MANILA VERITAS ENGLISH 29 JUL///A MILITARY
CONSPIRACY?

take 2 of 2 -- philippines: galman lawyer's views on aquino killing

hk060B11

((Text)) Lazaro nodded emphatically. "The testimony of the men of Team Alpha, (the soldiers in the SWAT van) was in this wise: they emerged from the van when they saw one of their companions, later identified as Sgt. Rolando de Guzman, shooting at a man in blue (Galman) and then they started peppering him with bullets even before they knew that he had been the man who shot Squino. De Guzman himself admitted to having been the first to shoot Galman because he had seen him fire at Aquino.

"But this testimony is belied by pictures taken by both local and foreign journalists, pictures taken right after the fusillade of four shots was heard. The pictures show both Galman and Aquino on the tarmac, but there are no soldiers around.

"This 'emptiness' within a radius of 20 meters of the two prone figures on the tarmac lasted for a period of 17 secnds. Then: as the VTR tapes show so definitely, some 20 shots were heard, shots which coincided with the emergence of the soliders from the van."

Again, Lazaro was emphatic. "If there had been no military conspiracy and cover-up, why did the soldiers who held Galman climb back to the van and close the door?" he asked.

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It was possible that these soldiers did not want to be in the line of fire when the soldiers in the van began shooting again at Galman.

Because of this cover-up, Lazaro said he was recommending to the Agrava board that a case of double murder be filed against General Luther Custodio, commanding general of the Aviation Security Command and against his key officers; also against Capt. Felipe Valerio and the members of Team Alpha and Capt. Kavinta and the members of Team Delta; Lt Jesus Castro and the four escorts plus one intelligence man.

The same charges, Lazaro went on, must be filed against Col. Arthur Custodio and Hermilo "Boy" Go Suico, the businessman, for their role in fetching, respectively, Galman and his wife, Lina, from their house in Bulacan.

Lazaro in his memorandum made it clear that the military conspiracy involved "a limited group consisting of four generals, a dozen officers and some 30 soldiers... This group, our analysis shows, acted on the order of at least three very important government personalities."

Because of the 220 million good reasons, however, Lazaro desisted from naming names.

(ENDALL) 29 JUL 06/0904Z AUG

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